

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING 56 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE FOR THE DODECANESE ISLANDS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Federation of Dodecanese Societies of America and Canada, which is celebrating 56 years of independence for the Dodecanese Islands, which are located in the southeastern part of the Aegean Sea. After five centuries of foreign rule, the Hellenic people of the islands not only survived occupation, but retained their heritage, ethnicity and religion, as well.

The Federation is a link between the many Dodecanese societies in North America and current residents of the Dodecanese Islands of Greece. More than 40,000 people of Dodecanesian descent live in the New York City area and contribute significantly to our community and economy.

The Dodecanese Federation was formed in New York in the 1920s and played a major role in the struggle for the liberation of the Islands. They joined in the celebration when, on February 10, 1947, the Paris Peace Treaty was signed, reuniting the Dodecanese Islands with the Greek mainland. The text of the Treaty states in part, "Italy hereby cedes to Greece in full sovereignty the Dodecanese Islands indicated thereafter, namely Stampalia, Rhodes, Calki, Scarpanto, Casos, Piscopis, Misiros, Calimnos, Leros, Patmos, Lipsos, Simi, Cos, and Castelorizo, as well as the adjacent islets." Greece ratified the Paris Treaty on October 22, 1947; formal reunification occurred on March 7, 1948.

Today, the Federation is devoted to supporting Hellenic-American relations and culture with a broad range of programs. Additionally, many of the Federation's member organizations have educational, cultural, and festival activities that promote and enrich the Hellenic community in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, as the founder and co-chairperson of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in paying tribute to the heroes of the long struggle for Dodecanesian independence. The Federation of Dodecanese Societies of America and Canada deserve our continuing respect, admiration and support.

Zeto E Eleftheria! (Long Live Freedom!)

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES AND
VELMA CLEMENTS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a very special oc-

casional: the 75th wedding anniversary of James and Velma Clements. This event will take place on March 30, 2004, but the Clements family is celebrating the event on March 20, 2004.

James Allen Clements was born in 1906 in Oneota, Alabama. He served in the Navy during World War II and worked at Fort McClellan, Alabama, as a carpenter. Velma Harris Clements was born on March 27, 1910, in Cleburne County, Alabama, and worked at the Linen Thread Company in Blue Mountain, Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Clements were married on March 30, 1929. They have three daughters and sons-in-law, 11 grandchildren, 23 great grandchildren, and three great great grandchildren.

James and Velma Clements joined Edgewood C.M. Church of Anniston, Alabama, on July 10, 1934. On March 20, 2004, a reception will be held there in honor of their 75th wedding anniversary. I salute this lovely couple on the 75th year of their life together and join their family in honoring them on this special occasion.

RULES COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIRMAN DAVID DREIER ON THE AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1375—FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATORY RELIEF ACT OF 2003

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2004

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute for the purpose of making an announcement.

The Rules Committee may meet the week of March 15 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 1375, the Financial Services Regulatory Relief Act of 2003. The Committee on Financial Services filed its report with the House on June 12, 2003, and the Committee on the Judiciary filed its report with the House on July 14, 2003.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 17. Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill as reported on July 14, 2003.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format. Members are also advised to check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

CONGRATULATING EAST BRUNSWICK HIGH SCHOOL'S WE THE PEOPLE TEAM

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 12, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, starting on May 1st, 2004, students from across the United States will arrive in Washington, D.C. in order to participate in the national finals of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution, which is an extraordinary civic education program developed to educate American youth about the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. By act of Congress, We the People is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, and administered by the Center for Civic Education.

It is with great pleasure that I announce that the class from East Brunswick High School will represent the State of New Jersey in this prestigious national event. These bright and dedicated students, through their extensive knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and superb reasoning and speaking skills, won their statewide competition and earned the chance to come to our Nation's capital and compete at the national level. I congratulate them, and I am confident that the students of East Brunswick High School will do a fine job of showing the Nation the very best that New Jersey has to offer.

Mr. Speaker, over a 3-day period, the We the People national Final Competition will test the abilities of the students in hearings, which are modeled after those actually held in the U.S. Congress. Through the We the People program, students are given an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge before a panel of constitutional scholars, judges, lawyers, and journalists, while they evaluate, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues. Testimony will be followed by questions designed to examine the students' knowledge and implementation of constitutional concepts, as well as their ability to apply that knowledge. This is an opportunity of a lifetime for these students to receive proper recognition for their hard work.

We the People has been shown to be a very effective measure in combating the important problems of apathy and cynicism in our Nation's youth. I can think of no better way of stimulating interest in government than total immersion in it. Nowhere else can these students learn more about their government than here in our Nation's capital. Many independent evaluations have validated the effectiveness of the program's ability to impress a positive attitude upon students about civic matters.

I ask my colleagues to join me in sending best wishes to all the participants at the We the People national finals, as well as in all their future endeavors, and applaud their achievement. Programs like We the People keep the thirst for knowledge alive in our youth. Our democracy is only as effective as

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